United Nations A/ES-10/639–S/2014/489

General Assembly
Security Council

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14 July 2014

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 11 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Over the past 48 hours, Israel, the occupying Power, has continued with its savage military campaign against the Palestinian civilian population in the besieged Gaza Strip, wreaking ever more havoc, death and destruction and declaring the intention to continue attacks, thereby endangering many more innocent lives. We condemn in the strongest terms this barbaric Israeli aggression and the continued perpetration of State terror against the Palestinian people. We reiterate our call for immediate protection for the Palestinian civilian population from this murderous and criminal Israeli rampage.

Since my previous letter, dated 9 July, the Israeli occupying forces have carried out hundreds more bombings and missile strikes targeting hundreds of locations in Gaza. Reports indicate that, since the start of this aggression, more than 100 Palestinians have been killed. This lethal campaign has also wounded over 700 other Palestinians, with some critically wounded and struggling for their lives. The casualties have tragically included dozens of children, among them many under the age of 5, women and the elderly, and many members of the same families as well as the killing of entire families. The following are just some of the names of the Palestinians brutally and wilfully murdered by the occupying Power over the past 48 hours:

Salem Qandeel, Amer Al-Fayouni and Bahaa Abu Elail were killed by a strike on their car north of Gaza City

Mahmoud Al-Haj, Tariq Saad Al-Haj, Saad Mahmoud Al-Haj, Omar Al-Haj, Najla Mahmoud Al-Haj and Amina Al-Haj — all from the same family — were killed by an airstrike on their home west of Khan Younis

Raed Shalat (age 30) was killed by an airstrike on his home in Al-Nuseirat camp, which also injured his wife and their three children

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Ibrahim Khalil Qanan (age 24) and his brother Mohammed Khalil Qanan (age 25), Ibrahim Swali (age 33) and his brother Mohammed Swali (age 28), Salem Al-Astal (age 55) and Mohammed Al-Ackad (age 24) were killed by an Israeli airstrike on a crowd that had gathered at a beach café in Khan Younis

Abdullah Abu Ghazl (age 4) was killed and his brother injured by an Israeli airstrike on their home in the Jabaliya refugee camp in northern Gaza

Hussein Abu Jamei (age 57) and his son Ismail (age 19) were killed by a strike on their home in Khan Younis

Mohammed Ihsan Farawneh (age 19) was killed in an airstrike in Khan Younis

Mahmoud Wloud, Hazem Baalousha and Alaa Abdel Nabi were all killed by an airstrike on their car in Al-Saftawi neighbourhood in the northern Gaza Strip

Yasmeen Al-Mutaweq (age 4) was killed by an airstrike in the southern Gaza Strip

Ahmed Zaher Hamdan (age 22) died days later of injuries he sustained in an Israeli airstrike

Mohammed Al-Kahlout was killed in an airstrike east of Jabaliya refugee camp

Sami Adnan Shildan (age 25) was killed in an airstrike on Al-Zaitoun neighbourhood of Gaza City

Shahd Helmi Al-Qarnawi (age 5) died days later of injuries she sustained in an Israeli airstrike

Abdel Halim Ashra (age 54) was found under the rubble of his home, which was hit by an Israeli war plane in Deir Al-Balah

Abdallah Abu Mahrouq died of injuries he sustained during an Israeli strike yesterday, 10 July, while he was on his motorcycle in Deir Al-Balah

Anas Rizq Abu Al-Kas (age 30) was killed in a strike on Burj Tal Al-Hawa, west of Gaza City

Adnan Salem Al-Ashhab (age 40) was killed in a strike south of Gaza City

Mazen Aslan and Shahraman Abu Al-Kas were killed in a strike in Al-Breij camp in central Gaza

Mohammed Rabii Abu Hmaidan (age 65) was killed by an airstrike in Beit Lahia

Wisam Abdel Razeq Ghannam (age 23), Mahmoud Abdel Razeq Ghannam, Kifah Shehada (age 20), Ghalia Deeb Ghannam (age 7) and Mohammed Mounir Ashour (age 25) were all killed by a strike on their home in Rafah

Nour Marwan Al-Najdi (age 10) was killed by an airstrike on Al-Nahda neighbourhood in Rafah

Saber Sukkar (age 80) and Hussein Mohammed Al-Mamlouk (age 47) died of injuries sustained in an Israeli airstrike on Al-Shujaiah neighbourhood in Gaza City

For all of these heinous crimes against the Palestinian people, Israel must be held fully accountable and justice must be achieved for the victims. The failure to do so will only embolden Israel's impunity, further exacerbating this conflict and deepening the already-grave suffering of the Palestinian people under this illegitimate occupation. In this connection, we reiterate our urgent call on the international community to act collectively and responsibly to address this crisis. The duties of the international community, including the Security Council, are clear and must be respected and upheld. International law, including humanitarian and human rights law, must be upheld and must not be allowed to be so flagrantly dismissed without consequence. Immediate action must be undertaken in particular by the Security Council in accordance with its Charter authority to bring a halt to Israel's onslaught against the Palestinian people and to extinguish the flames of this most recent deadly cycle of violence that has already claimed too many innocent civilian lives.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 505 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 9 July 2014 (A/ES-10/638-S/2014/483), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2014/490

Security Council

Distr.: General
14 July 2014

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Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2042 (2012), 2043 (2012), 2118 (2013) and 2139 (2014), and its Presidential Statements of 3 August 2011, 21 March 2012, 5 April 2012 and 2 October 2013,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Syria, and to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Being appalled at the unacceptable and escalating level of violence and the death of more than 150,000 people, including well over 10,000 children, as a result of the Syrian conflict as reported by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict,

Expressing grave alarm at the significant and rapid deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Syria, at the fact that the number of people in need of assistance has grown to over 10 million, including 6.4 million internally displaced persons and over 4.5 million living in hard-to-reach areas, and that over 240,000 are trapped in besieged areas, as reported by the United Nations Secretary-General,

Deploring the fact that the demands in its resolution 2139 (2014) and the provisions of its Presidential Statement of 2 October 2013 (S/PRST/2013/15) have not been heeded by the Syrian parties to the conflict as stated in the United Nations Secretary-General's reports of 22 May 2014 (S/2014/365) and 20 June 2014 (S/2014/427), and *recognizing* that, while some steps have been undertaken by the Syrian parties, they have not had the necessary impact on the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all people in need throughout Syria,

Commending the indispensable and ongoing efforts of the United Nations, its specialized agencies and all humanitarian and medical personnel in Syria and in neighbouring countries to alleviate the impact of the conflict on the Syrian people,

Reiterating its appreciation for the significant and admirable efforts that have been made by the countries of the region, notably Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Iraq and Egypt, to accommodate the more than 2.8 million refugees who have fled Syria as a result of ongoing violence including the approximately 300,000 refugees who have fled since the adoption of resolution 2139 (2014), and *urging again* all Member

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States, based on burden-sharing principles, to support these neighbouring host countries to enable them to respond to the growing humanitarian needs, including by providing direct support,

Strongly condemning the continuing widespread violations of human rights and international humanitarian law by the Syrian authorities, as well as the human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law by armed groups,

Stressing the need to end impunity for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, and *reaffirming* that those who have committed or are otherwise responsible for such violations and abuses in Syria must be brought to justice,

Expressing grave alarm in particular at the continuing indiscriminate attacks in populated areas, including an intensified campaign of aerial bombings and the use of barrel bombs in Aleppo and other areas, artillery, shelling and air strikes, and the widespread use of torture, ill-treatment, sexual and gender-based violence as well as all grave violations and abuses committed against children, and *reiterating* that some of these violations may amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity,

Reiterating its demand that all parties demilitarize medical facilities, schools and other civilian facilities and avoid establishing military positions in populated areas and desist from attacks directed against civilian objects,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of the Syrian authorities to protect the population in Syria and *reiterating* that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians, and *recalling* in this regard its demand that all parties to armed conflict comply fully with the obligations applicable to them under international law related to the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including journalists, media professionals and associated personnel,

Recalling the need for all parties to respect the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law and the United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian emergency assistance,

Expressing grave alarm at the spread of extremism and extremist groups, the targeting of civilians based on their ethnicity, religion and/or confessional affiliations, *expressing further grave alarm* at the increased attacks resulting in numerous casualties and destruction, indiscriminate shelling by mortars, car bombs, suicide attacks, tunnel bombs as well as hostage taking, kidnappings, and attacks against civilian infrastructure including deliberate interruptions of water supply, *condemning* terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and *recalling* in this regard its resolutions 1373 (2001), 1624 (2005), 2129 (2013) and 2133 (2014),

Deeply disturbed by the continued, arbitrary and unjustified withholding of consent to relief operations and the persistence of conditions that impede the delivery of humanitarian supplies to destinations within Syria, in particular to besieged and hard-to-reach areas, and *noting* the United Nations Secretary-General's view that arbitrarily withholding consent for the opening of all relevant border crossings is a violation of international humanitarian law and an act of non-compliance with resolution 2139 (2014),

Emphasizing that the humanitarian situation will continue to deteriorate further in the absence of a political solution to the crisis, *reiterating* its endorsement of the

Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012 (Annex II of resolution 2118 (2013)) and *demanding* that all parties work towards the immediate and comprehensive implementation of the Geneva Communiqué aimed at bringing an immediate end to all violence, violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international law, and facilitating the Syrian-led process launched in Montreux on 22 January 2014, leading to a transition that meets the legitimate aspirations of the Syrian people and enables them independently and democratically to determine their own future,

Recalling its intent, expressed in its resolution 2139 (2014), to take further steps in the case of non-compliance with the resolution,

Determining that the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Syria constitutes a threat to peace and security in the region,

Underscoring that Member States are obligated under Article 25 of the Charter of the United Nations to accept and carry out the Council's decisions,

1. *Reiterates* that all parties to the conflict, in particular the Syrian authorities, must comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law and international human rights law and must fully and immediately implement the provisions of its resolution 2139 (2014) and its Presidential Statement of 2 October 2013 (S/PRST/2013/15);

2. *Decides* that the United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners are authorized to use routes across conflict lines and the border crossings of Bab al-Salam, Bab al-Hawa, Al Yarubiyah and Al-Ramtha, in addition to those already in use, in order to ensure that humanitarian assistance, including medical and surgical supplies, reaches people in need throughout Syria through the most direct routes, with notification to the Syrian authorities, and to this end *stresses* the need for all border crossings to be used efficiently for United Nations humanitarian operations;

3. *Decides* to establish a monitoring mechanism, under the authority of the United Nations Secretary-General, to monitor, with the consent of the relevant neighbouring countries of Syria, the loading of all humanitarian relief consignments of the United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners at the relevant United Nations facilities, and any subsequent opening of the consignments by the customs authorities of the relevant neighbouring countries, for passage into Syria across the border crossings of Bab al-Salam, Bab al-Hawa, Al Yarubiyah and Al-Ramtha, and with notification by the United Nations to the Syrian authorities, in order to confirm the humanitarian nature of these relief consignments;

4. *Decides* that the United Nations monitoring mechanism shall be deployed expeditiously;

5. *Further decides* that the decisions contained in operative paragraphs two and three of this resolution shall expire 180 days from the adoption of this resolution, and shall be subject to review by the Security Council;

6. *Also decides* that all Syrian parties to the conflict shall enable the immediate and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance directly to people throughout Syria, by the United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners, on the basis of United Nations assessments of need and

devoid of any political prejudices and aims, including by immediately removing all impediments to the provision of humanitarian assistance;

7. *Notes* in this regard the role that ceasefire agreements that are consistent with humanitarian principles and international humanitarian law could play to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance in order to help save civilian lives, and *further underscores* the need for the parties to agree on humanitarian pauses, days of tranquillity, localized ceasefires and truces to allow humanitarian agencies safe and unhindered access to all affected areas in Syria in accordance with international humanitarian law, and *recalls* that starvation of civilians as a method of combat is prohibited by international humanitarian law;

8. *Decides* that all Syrian parties to the conflict shall take all appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of United Nations and associated personnel, those of its specialized agencies, and all other personnel engaged in humanitarian relief activities as required by international humanitarian law, without prejudice to their freedom of movement and access, *stresses* the need not to impede or hinder these efforts, and *recalls* that attacks on humanitarian workers may amount to war crimes;

9. *Reiterates* that the only sustainable solution to the current crisis in Syria is through an inclusive and Syrian-led political process with a view to full implementation of the Geneva Communiqué of 30 June 2012 endorsed as Annex II of its resolution 2118 (2013), *pays tribute* to the efforts of Mr. Lakhdar Brahimi, and *welcomes* the appointment of the Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for Syria Mr. Staffan de Mistura;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council on the implementation of this resolution, and on compliance with it by all Syrian parties to the conflict, within the framework of its reporting on resolution 2139 (2014);

11. *Affirms* that it will take further measures in the event of non-compliance with this resolution or resolution 2139 (2014) by any Syrian party;

12. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

United Nations A/ES-10/640–S/2014/491

General Assembly
Security Council

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14 July 2014

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 14 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I write to you to reiterate our urgent appeal that all possible measures be taken by the international community to provide immediate protection to the Palestinian civilian population throughout the entire Occupied State of Palestine, especially in the besieged Gaza Strip, against the ongoing savagery and military aggression being perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power. The numbers and facts surrounding Israel's latest war crimes and acts of State terrorism against the Palestinian people are beyond alarming.

In this regard, since 7 July 2014, Israel, the occupying Power, has brutally killed at least 184 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip alone; more than 70 have been killed in the period since my last letter to you, dated 11 July, and since the clear call by the Security Council on 12 July for a ceasefire and for respect of international humanitarian law, including through the protection of civilians. Reports indicate that, of the Palestinians brutally murdered by the occupying forces, 39 were children, 24 were women, 13 were elderly persons and 3 were disabled persons. The occupying Power has also caused deliberate and serious injury to more than 1,300 Palestinians, including hundreds of children and women, many suffering permanent injury and many in critical condition and struggling to live. Relevant institutions are also reporting that at least 25,000 Palestinian children are in need of immediate psychosocial support owing to the horrors and tragedies they have witnessed over the past week. The grave violations of human rights instruments by Israel, the occupying Power, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which Israel is a signatory, are too numerous to list in this letter.

The Israeli assaults are also causing vast physical destruction, as the occupying forces have destroyed or caused serious damage to 940 civilian homes, rendering thousands permanently homeless. Schools of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), health

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centres, mosques, water and sewage networks, electricity lines and industries have also been targeted by the occupying Power, resulting in two hospitals, three medical clinics, one treatment centre for the disabled, four ambulances and 62 schools damaged by Israeli airstrikes and three mosques completely destroyed. More than 160,000 people have already been displaced, many of whom are seeking safety and shelter in UNRWA schools, and 395,000 people have been affected by the destruction of water and waste infrastructure, gravely compounding the humanitarian crisis and suffering being endured by the Palestinian civilian population.

These figures are widely reflected in the reports of, among others, the agencies of the United Nations, the same organization that Israel, the occupying Power, is a full member of and whose Charter and resolutions it is duty-bound to ensure respect of. Yet, the reality is that Israel acts with complete, systematic and wilful disrespect for the Charter and relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, committing human rights violations and war crimes against the Palestinian people under its occupation with total impunity and barbarism. The historic lack of accountability has no doubt fostered Israel's belief that it is above the law and will suffer no consequences for such crimes. This immoral, unconscionable situation cannot continue. The international community can no longer stand by while the occupying Power commits grave breaches of international law, including humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention, and human rights law, inflicting trauma, terror, death and destruction on the defenceless Palestinian people. For all of the grave breaches of international law, including war crimes, that it is perpetrating, Israel must be fully held accountable.

Moreover, we underscore the international legal obligation to ensure the protection of civilians, for this obligation has not only been abdicated by Israel, the occupying Power, but is being intentionally, grossly and systematically violated as it continues its military attacks and excessive use of force against unarmed, defenceless civilians throughout the cities, towns and refugee camps of Occupied Palestine, particularly in the Gaza Strip, exhibiting a cruel disregard for human life and inflicting civilian casualties and widespread suffering, pain and trauma among the Palestinian people.

Rejecting international appeals for a ceasefire, the occupying Power is in fact widening the scope of its attacks, even including a ground invasion into northern Gaza over the weekend. In an act that is clearly a war crime, yesterday, 13 July, 18 members of the Al-Batsh family, including six children and three women, one of them pregnant, were massacred, and 16 other civilians were wounded by the Israeli occupying forces in a deliberately launched military airstrike at a home in the neighbourhood of Tuffah in the Gaza Strip. This gruesome attack, which Israel declared to be targeting Tayseer Al-Batsh, a police chief in Gaza, caused the deaths of Nahed Nai'im Al-Batsh (41), Bahaa Majed Al-Batsh (28), Qusai Issam Al-Batsh (12), Mohammed Issam Al-Batsh (17), Ahmed Nu'man Al-Batsh (27), Yehya Ala Al-Batsh (18), Jalal Majed Al-Batsh (26), Mahmoud Majed Al-Batsh (22), Marwa Majed Al-Batsh (25), Majed Subhi Al-Batsh, Khaled Majed Al-Batsh (20), Ibrahim Majed Al-Batsh (18), Manar Majed Al-Batsh (13), Amal Hasan Al-Batsh (49), Anas Alaa Al-Batsh (10), Qusai Alaa Al-Batsh (20), Zakariya Alaa Al-Batsh and Aziza Youssef Al-Batsh (59).

In another war crime, on Saturday, 12 July 2014, an Israeli airstrike killed two Palestinians in a centre for disabled persons in northern Gaza and seriously

wounded several others. Among the dead were Ola Washahi (31) and Suha Abu Saada (47), both of whom suffered from severe mental and physical handicaps. This war crime was also perpetrated in direct contravention of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to which Israel is also a signatory. Moreover, these aforementioned attacks are only two of the hundreds of lethal, indiscriminate attacks launched by Israel in recent days against the 1.8 million Palestinian civilians in Gaza, who are imprisoned there by the occupying Power, with nowhere to flee or seek refuge, with the exception of UNRWA schools, which have clearly not been spared as targets of attacks, and are once again living a nightmare inside a nightmare.

At the same time, in the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the occupying Power continues its aggression against the civilian population. Measures of collective punishment, such as violent military raids into Palestinian towns and villages and the mass arrest and detention of Palestinian civilians, many of them youth as well as members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, continue unabated. The use of excessive force against the Palestinian civilian population, including Palestinians protesting against Israel's cold-blooded slaughter of their brothers and sisters in the Gaza Strip, also continues unabated. Israeli occupying forces continue to routinely fire stun grenades, tear gas canisters, rubber-coated steel bullets and even live ammunition at civilian protesters, causing dozens of injuries and causing today the death of Mounir Al-Badarin (21) in Al-Khalil (Hebron).

We call upon the international community to act immediately to end this latest barbaric aggression by Israel against the Palestinian civilian population throughout Occupied Palestine, particularly in the Gaza Strip. The statement issued by the Security Council on Saturday has clearly failed to compel the occupying Power to halt its military attacks and respond to the calls for a ceasefire. More serious collective action is required, including by the Security Council, to demand a halt to Israel's military operations and to protect civilian lives. Moreover, we call for the international community to ensure an end to Israel's eight-year illegal blockade against the people of Gaza, which has only further exacerbated their misery and suffering. Israeli violations must be condemned and the occupying Power must be held accountable for its continuous aggression. To remain silent in the face of such grave breaches of international law is unacceptable and will only bolster Israel's impunity and allow for the further loss of innocent human life.

Here, I wish to refer to the clear calls for international action and efforts to uphold international legal obligations by the Palestinian leadership, along with the League of Arab States. The Palestinian leadership is continuously conducting meetings aimed at addressing this growing crisis and has taken several steps with the primary objective of ending Israel's bloodshed and war against Palestinian civilians in Gaza and securing international protection of the Palestinian people in accordance with the relevant provisions of international humanitarian law, particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention. As I write this letter to you, a meeting of Arab ministers of foreign affairs is being held in Cairo to discuss further possible action, including the holding of an emergency meeting of the Security Council to mobilize action on a draft resolution which would call for, inter alia: an immediate ceasefire; provisions to ensure protection for Palestinian civilians in all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as Israel, the occupying Power, has clearly abdicated and gravely breached its responsibilities to ensure the safety and well-being of the Palestinian civilian population under its occupation;

and an investigation of all grave breaches committed by the occupying Power, including the abduction and burning alive of Mohammed Abu Khdier by the occupying Power's illegal terrorist settlers. Moreover, the State of Palestine has called upon the depository of the Geneva Conventions to convene the High Contracting Parties to ensure respect for the Fourth Geneva Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to take measures to provide protection to the Palestinian people living under Israel's cruel and belligerent 47-year military occupation.

This letter is in follow-up to our 506 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 11 July 2014 (A/ES-10/639-S/2014/489) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2014/492

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 10 July 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to resolution 2157 (2014), by which the Security Council decided to extend the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) for a period of six months with effect from 1 June 2014.

Following the usual consultations, I wish to inform you of my intention to appoint Miguel Trovoada (Sao Tome and Principe) as my Special Representative in Guinea-Bissau and Head of UNIOGBIS. He will succeed José Ramos-Horta, who has served in that capacity since February 2013 and who concluded his assignment on 30 June 2014. I should like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to Mr. Ramos-Horta for his dedicated service with the United Nations and his effective leadership of UNIOGBIS.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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United Nations S/2014/493

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 14 July 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 10 July 2014 (S/2014/492) concerning your intention to appoint Miguel Trovoada (Sao Tome and Principe) as your Special Representative in Guinea-Bissau and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Eugène-Richard **Gasana**
President of the Security Council

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United Nations S/2014/494

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2014

Original: English

Identical letters dated 14 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

As I write, the citizens of northern Israel are under attack from a series of rockets launched by terrorists in Lebanon, the most recent of which fell just hours ago. The Government of Israel holds the Government of Lebanon and its Armed Forces responsible for all attacks emanating from Lebanese territory. These attacks constitute a flagrant breach of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

Instead of standing guard, the Lebanese Armed Forces are standing by as terror organizations in its territory exacerbate regional instability. Israel has shown maximum restraint in responding to these attacks, but can no longer be expected to stand by as its citizens are continuously put at risk. Israel will not accept any attacks on its territory.

The recent attacks are a reminder that illegal arms continue to flow into southern Lebanon. Before the situation further deteriorates, the Security Council must call upon the Lebanese Government to take responsibility by deploying the Lebanese Armed Forces in its south. This is essential to preventing additional attacks against Israel. Furthermore, Israel expects the Lebanese Government to arrest the perpetrators launching these rockets.

Israel calls upon the Security Council to ensure the enforcement of resolution 1701 (2006). This includes the arms embargo and sanctioning all those involved in the sale and supply of arms to terrorists.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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United Nations S/2014/495

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2014

Original: English

Identical letters dated 15 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

In the past week, I have sent letters alerting you to the barrage of rockets fired at Israel from Hamas in Gaza and terrorist organizations in Lebanon. I am writing to inform you that Israel is now being attacked from a third front, in addition to facing those threats.

On 13 and 14 July 2014, a series of Grad missiles were shot from Syria into the Israeli Golan Heights. These unprovoked attacks, which are in clear violation of the 1974 separation of forces agreement, were launched from a Syrian Government controlled area. The Government of Israel holds the Government of Syria and the Syrian army responsible for all attacks from its territory towards Israel.

Israel has repeatedly issued warnings and sent letters to the Security Council cautioning that the provocations on the part of Syria will not be tolerated. The attacks on northern Israel have the potential to escalate tensions and further destabilize the region.

Israel has shown maximum restraint thus far, but will exercise its full right to self-defence. I urge the Security Council to demand that the Syrian Government respect the separation of forces agreement and prevent future attacks on Israel.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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United Nations S/2014/496

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 July 2014
English
Original: Arabic

Letter dated 14 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the following information:

The Islamic Republic of Iran has recently raised the Iranian flag over part of the island of Abu Musa that is allocated to the United Arab Emirates under the 1971 memorandum of understanding concerning the island. The Government of the United Arab Emirates strongly protests against that step, which it considers to be a flagrant violation of the memorandum of understanding that does not affect the legal status of the island.

In that regard, the United Arab Emirates stresses that the 1971 memorandum of understanding did not transfer sovereignty over the island of Abu Musa or any part thereof to the Islamic Republic of Iran. Since 1980, the latter has taken measures on Abu Musa that violate the memorandum of understanding with a view to bringing the island under Iranian sovereignty. The Government of the United Arab Emirates has continued to protest against those measures.

The Government of the United Arab Emirates hereby calls on the Islamic Republic of Iran to rescind those measures, immediately remove the Iranian flag and comply scrupulously with the 1971 memorandum of understanding.

Every year, through the United Nations General Assembly, my Government has called on the Islamic Republic of Iran to agree that the question of the three Arabian Gulf islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa should be referred to the International Court of Justice unless the two countries can reach a negotiated solution within an agreed time frame.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter issued as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Lana Zaki **Nusseibeh**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2014/497

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 11 July 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), established by Security Council resolution 2149 (2014) of 10 April 2014.

Following the usual consultations, I would like to inform you of my intention to appoint Mr. Babacar Gaye (Senegal) as my Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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United Nations S/2014/498

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 15 July 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 11 July 2014 (S/2014/497) concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Babacar Gaye (Senegal) as your Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Eugène-Richard **Gasana**
President of the Security Council

14-57608 (E) 150714

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United Nations S/2014/499

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 July 2014

Original: English

Identical letters dated 16 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On 14 July 2014, Egypt put forward a proposal for a ceasefire to end hostilities between Hamas terrorists in Gaza and Israel. Israel saw the ceasefire as an opportunity for civilians on both sides to return to normal life. The Government of Israel, headed by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, courageously chose the responsible course of action and agreed to do its part to restore the calm.

For six hours, Israel halted all its military activity in Gaza. However, Hamas rejected the ceasefire both in word and deed by firing 47 rockets towards the towns and cities of Israel. In the face of the continued threat to its citizens, Israel had no choice but to defend itself. The formula is simple — when it will be quiet in Israel, it will be quiet in Gaza.

The Government of Israel and the Israel Defense Forces are fully committed to the rule of law and are doing everything in their power to protect civilians. Israel is taking measures that go beyond the requirements of the laws of armed conflict, including by providing advance warning of attacks to the civilian population by means of leaflets, telephone calls and text messages.

In contrast, Hamas has committed an untold number of war crimes by placing civilians on both sides in harm's way. This is a flagrant violation of the most basic laws of armed conflict. For years, Hamas has deliberately targeted Israel's entire civilian population with suicide, rocket and mortar attacks. At the same time, Hamas deliberately and systematically employs tactics that put the Palestinian civilian population in grave danger. It is using Palestinian civilians as human shields by launching attacks from densely populated civilian areas; establishing weapons storage sites and command centres in hospitals, private homes, schools and mosques; and using these locations for terrorist activities.

At this critical juncture, Israel calls on the international community to stop the attacks on Israeli citizens by unequivocally condemning Hamas and supporting Israel's right to defend its citizens.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ron **Prosor**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

14-57669 (E) 160714

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United Nations S/2014/500

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 July 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the press remarks made today by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator after the adjournment of the Security Council consultations on the Sudan and South Sudan, I should like to state the following facts:

(a) The military activities carried out by the Sudanese Armed Forces in Blue Nile and South Kordofan States were basically in response to the escalation of attacks by rebel armed groups, under the umbrella of the so-called Sudanese Revolutionary Front, against many places in those two states. The Government of the Sudan was duty-bound to uphold its responsibilities to protect civilians in those areas;

(b) With regard to the issue of humanitarian access in the two states, it is well known that the Government of the Sudan was the party that welcomed the tripartite initiative to deliver humanitarian assistance in those areas. However, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North was the party that repeatedly rejected that initiative and deliberately impeded access to the affected people in areas under its control. Furthermore, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North was the party that obstructed the polio vaccination campaign in the two areas, as well as putting hurdles before all efforts exerted under the auspices of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel to conclude a permanent ceasefire and cessation of hostilities that could pave the way for unhindered access and delivery of humanitarian assistance in the two states;

(c) Finally, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan reiterates its unwavering commitment to achieving lasting peace and stability in the two areas through a comprehensive political settlement in the context of the inclusive national dialogue initiative declared by the President, Omer Hassan Al-Bashir. In this regard, I call upon the international community to impress on the armed groups to join the national dialogue. We stress the fact that all the necessary guarantees would be granted to the armed groups to participate in the dialogue.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman **Elnor**
Permanent Representative

14-57773 (E) 180714

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United Nations S/2014/501

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 11 July 2014 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia, France and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

We refer to our letter to which is annexed the report of the Human Rights Council commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which has been issued as a document of the Security Council (S/2014/276).

Together, we co-hosted a meeting, on 17 April 2014, of Security Council members, under the Arria Formula, to discuss the commission's report, and have the honour to transmit a non-paper summarizing the informative discussion that took place during that meeting (see annex).

We believe that the Security Council should formally discuss the commission's findings of widespread and systematic human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and its recommendations to the Council, and consider appropriate action. In particular, the Council should consider how those responsible for such violations should be held accountable.

We kindly ask you to circulate the present letter and its annex to the members of the Security Council and to issue it as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Gary **Quinlan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Australia to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Gérard **Araud**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Samantha **Power**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations

14-57768 (E) 220714

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Annex to the letter dated 11 July 2014 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia, France and the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Non-paper

Arria Formula meeting of the Security Council with the commission of inquiry on the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

On 17 April 2014, Australia, France and the United States of America organized an Arria Formula meeting of the Security Council to discuss the report of the Human Rights Council commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.[a] The report has been issued as a document of the Council (S/2014/276).

The report presents a detailed and sobering account of widespread and systematic gross human rights violations, which have been and are being committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The report's findings are based on a collection of first-hand accounts from victims and witnesses. It contains a series of recommendations to take immediate steps to end the human rights violations and address the human rights concerns identified by the commission of inquiry, including specific recommendations directed to the Security Council.

The purpose of the Arria Formula meeting was to gather various stakeholders (members of the commission of inquiry, witnesses who participated in the commission process, Member States and members of civil society), in an informal fashion, in order to be briefed on the findings and recommendations of the commission of inquiry and to exchange views on how the international community and, in particular, the Security Council, should respond.

The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Australia, Ambassador Gary Quinlan, the Permanent Representative of France, Ambassador Gérard Araud, and the Permanent Representative of the United States, Ambassador Samantha Power. The following panellists addressed the Security Council: the three members of the commission, Michael Kirby (Chair), Marzuki Darusman and Sonja Biserko, and two witnesses who had participated in the inquiry, Shin Donghyuk and Hyongseo Lee.

The present non-paper, compiled by the Permanent Missions of Australia, France and the United States, is a co-conveners' summary of the comments by the participants during the meeting. It does not prejudge endorsement of their content by Australia, France, the United States or any other Member State. The non-paper is addressed to various stakeholders for further consideration.

Discussion

The members of the commission of inquiry explained that they had approached their task with independence, impartiality and without preconceptions, with a view

[a] A/HRC/25/63. The detailed findings of the commission of inquiry are available in conference room paper A/HRC/25/CRP.1.

to ensuring full accountability, in particular for human rights violations that might amount to crimes against humanity. The members of the commission advised that the gravity, scale, duration and nature of human rights violations that it found revealed a totalitarian State without parallel in the contemporary world.

An estimated 80,000 to 120,000 people were imprisoned, without trial, in four large political prison camps in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and others languished in other prisons and interrogation detention centres where torture was a standard practice. Women who tried to flee the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and were forcibly repatriated faced sexual humiliation and violence. In addition to physically controlling its citizens, the authorities of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea also sought to control their minds by systematically indoctrinating the population from childhood and violently suppressing freedom of thought or opinion. The commission also noted that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had abducted, or otherwise forcibly caused to disappear, well over 200,000 persons from China, Japan, the Republic of Korea and other countries, including after the end of the Korean War.

Although the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had denied the commission's many requests for access to the country and contact with its authorities, more than 200 victims, eyewitnesses and former officials gave confidential evidence before the commission, and 80 witnesses participated in the commission's open public hearings. The commission carefully assessed the credibility of each witness and the information presented and did not rely solely on witness testimony.

The members of the commission concluded that there were reasonable grounds to establish that crimes against humanity had been and were being committed in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a matter of State policy. The list of crimes against humanity included: arbitrary imprisonment, enslavement and torture; extermination and murder; rape, forced abortions and infanticide; persecution of political, religious, racial and gender groups; enforced disappearances; and the inhumane act of knowingly causing prolonged starvation.

The members of the commission highlighted that history showed that States that committed such heinous crimes against their own people were a perpetual source of instability and insecurity for their neighbours. The members of the commission emphasized that the perpetrators of such crimes must be held accountable under international criminal law. The commission recommended that the Security Council refer the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court and adopt targeted sanctions against those individuals most responsible for crimes against humanity.

The two witnesses who had participated in the Inquiry, Mr. Donghyuk and Ms. Lee, spoke of their personal experiences in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea before they had escaped as refugees. Mr. Shin described his harrowing childhood within a political prison camp in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, where he was born, and recalled the public execution of his mother and his brother in front of him. Mr. Shin recalled the torture he had endured within the camp and explained that prisoners were viewed as less than animals by the guards. Ms. Lee also recalled witnessing public executions during her childhood and being taught from kindergarten that Americans were the enemies of the people of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and were killing them. Both strongly urged

the international community and the United Nations to act to address the human rights violations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

In the ensuing discussion, Security Council members congratulated the commission for a compelling report of exceptional quality and commended the courage of the two witnesses. Council members expressed grave concern at the horrific human rights violations and crimes against humanity outlined in the report. Most Council members urged the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to comply with the commission's recommendations and to engage with the United Nations human rights system, including at its forthcoming universal periodic review. Council members emphasized the importance of accountability of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in the human rights context, and many Council members supported the commission's recommendation that the Council refer the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the International Criminal Court, or indicated that this recommendation deserved the Council's consideration. The recommendation to adopt targeted sanctions against those individuals most responsible for crimes against humanity was also supported by some Council members. Some Council members also suggested adding a new item to the Council's agenda to deal with human rights issues in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and holding regular briefings by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for the Council on the human rights situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. They expressed support for the Human Rights Council's decision to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the commission's request to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with increased support. Council members also endorsed the recommendation to establish a field-based structure to strengthen monitoring and documentation of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to promote accountability. Several non-Council members also voiced support for the aforementioned accountability efforts.

United Nations S/2014/502

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 14 July 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Following the usual consultations, I have the honour to inform you that it is my intention to appoint Mr. Said Djinnit (Algeria) as my Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region. Mr. Djinnit will succeed Mrs. Mary Robinson (Ireland). I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep appreciation to Mrs. Robinson for her dedicated service over the past year.

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

14-57697 (E) 170714

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United Nations S/2014/503

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 July 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 14 July 2014 (S/2014/502) concerning your intention to appoint Mr. Said Djinnit (Algeria) as your Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Eugène-Richard **Gasana**
President of the Security Council

14-57699 (E) 170714

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United Nations S/2014/504

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 July 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

As you are aware, the Security Council has completed its review of the measures pertaining to the sanctions regime in Liberia, in accordance with Security Council resolution 2128 (2013).

As an outcome of the review, the members of the Security Council request the Secretary-General to conduct an assessment mission and report to the Council, by 1 October 2014, on the progress that Liberia has made towards meeting the conditions set out in Security Council resolution 1521 (2003) for the termination of sanctions, and to provide recommendations on United Nations assistance and other technical assistance to the Government of Liberia in:

- Improving its capacities to undertake the proper management of arms and ammunition, including enacting the necessary legislative frameworks;
- Facilitating the effective monitoring and management of the border regions between Liberia and Côte d'Ivoire.

The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to dispatch such an assessment mission, to be led by the Department of Political Affairs and carried out in coordination with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the United Nations Mission in Liberia, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Security Council resolution 2116 (2013), and with other relevant actors.

(*Signed*) Eugène-Richard **Gasana**
President of the Security Council

14-57700 (E) 170714

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United Nations S/2014/505

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 July 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 July 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2165 (2014), adopted on 14 July 2014, by which the Council decided to establish a monitoring mechanism, under my authority, to monitor, with the consent of the relevant neighbouring countries of the Syrian Arab Republic, the loading of all humanitarian relief consignments of the United Nations humanitarian agencies and their implementing partners at the relevant United Nations facilities, and any subsequent opening of the consignments by the customs authorities of the relevant neighbouring countries, for passage into the Syrian Arab Republic across the border crossings of Bab al-Salam, Bab al-Hawa, Al-Ya'rubiyah and Al-Ramtha, and with notification by the United Nations to the Syrian authorities, in order to confirm the humanitarian nature of those relief consignments.

I have requested the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to work on the establishment of the monitoring mechanism, including its expeditious deployment.

In accordance with your request, I will report to the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 2165 (2014) within the monthly reporting framework for resolution 2139 (2014).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

14-57745 (E) 170714

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United Nations A/ES-10/641–S/2014/506

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
17 July 2014

Original: English

General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 17 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I write to you today to convey that yesterday, Wednesday, 16 July 2014, tragically marked the highest number of child fatalities in a 24-hour period since Israel's barbaric aggression against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip began 10 days ago. According to reports, the Israeli occupying forces killed 23 Palestinians yesterday, including 3 women and 9 children — 7 boys and 2 girls.

Among the dead were Ismail (age 9), Ahed (age 10), Mohammed (age 10) and Zakariya (age 10), brothers and cousins in the Baker family, who were murdered by the occupying forces, who fired at them as they were playing on the beach in Gaza City. The number of children killed by such Israeli war crimes in Gaza in the recent period now stands at 47. The killing of these young boys was witnessed by many journalists on the scene. One journalist, Peter Beaumont of *The Guardian*, who witnessed the attack, stated the following:

> The first projectile hit the sea wall of Gaza City's little harbour just after four o'clock. As the smoke from the explosion thinned, four figures could be seen running, ragged silhouettes, legs pumping furiously along the wall. Even from a distance of 200 metres, it was obvious that three of them were children.
>
> Jumping off the harbour wall, they turned on to the beach, attempting to cross the short distance to the safety of the Al-Deira hotel, base for many of the journalists covering the Gaza conflict.
>
> They waved and shouted at the watching journalists as they passed a little collection of brightly coloured beach tents, used by bathers in peacetime.
>
> It was there that the second shell hit the beach, those firing apparently adjusting their fire to target the fleeing survivors. As it exploded, journalists standing by the terrace wall shouted: "They are only children." In the space of

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40 seconds, four boys who had been playing hide-and-seek among the fishermen's shacks on the wall were dead.

In addition to the killing of the four boys, yesterday, another four Palestinians were killed when Israeli strikes targeted them near Al-Katiba mosque west of Khan Younis. A small girl, Yasmin Al-Astal (age 4), a boy, Osama Al-Astal (age 6) and Raqiyya Al-Astal (age 70) were among the dead, and many others were injured. In another war crime yesterday, a missile was fired from an Israeli drone at a civilian taxi in Bani Suheila, west of Khan Younis, killing several members of yet another Palestinian family. The family was on its way home from visiting a hospitalized family member who had been injured in an Israeli air strike days prior. Ibrahim Ramadan Abu Daqqa (age 10), his brother Amro Ramadan Abu Daqqa (age 25) and their sister Madeline Abu Daqqa (age 27), a pregnant mother of three, died along with their elderly grandmother, Khadra Abu Daqqa, all killed instantly by the wanton and deliberate attacks being perpetrated by the occupying Power.

In addition to the cold-blooded killing of these Palestinian civilians, many more have been killed and more than 1,700 have been injured by over 1,800 Israeli airstrikes thus far against the besieged Gaza Strip. Moreover, in the past 10 days, 695 homes have been completely destroyed, another 640 homes have been partially destroyed and 81 schools have been destroyed or damaged, along with three hospitals and five health centres; this is exacerbating the health crisis in Gaza, where there is a dire and growing need for medicine and medical equipment, already in short supply owing to the blockade. Religious sites also continue to be hit by Israeli airstrikes, including 3 mosques that have been completely destroyed and another 64 mosques that have been seriously damaged. Moreover, more than 22,600 people have been displaced and more than 900,000 people have been affected by the destruction of electricity, water and sanitation infrastructure.

In addition to the rampage of killing and destruction, the culture of Israeli incitement and hatred continues to intensify, deliberately aimed at terrorizing and causing harm to our people. Among the many examples of this are the condemnable actions by Israeli citizens in the town of Sderot, who have set up lounge chairs and couches on a hilltop to watch the bombs rain down on the Gaza Strip, eating popcorn while cheering the death of Palestinian women and children. Members of the Israeli Government also continue to incite and call for the ethnic cleansing of the Palestinian people. In just one abhorrent example, Ayelet Shaked, a member of the "Jewish Home" party, issued a call on Facebook to ethnically cleanse the land, declaring that "the entire Palestinian people is the enemy". She advocated their complete destruction, "including its elderly and its women", adding that they must be slaughtered, otherwise they might give birth to more "little snakes".

Moreover, many Israelis continue to post hate-filled comments against Palestinians on social media outlets, inciting further violence and terror against our people. After yesterday's killing of four boys by the occupying Power, Israelis posted racist, vulgar rants all over social media, including, for example: "it's a shame it wasn't 400,000 dead kids", "have more of them killed like cockroaches, go away", and "I hope all of you die, stinking people, garbage Arabs." We condemn in the strongest terms such incitement, provocations and calls for violence against the Palestinian people. We call on the international community to strongly condemn all such forms of Israeli incitement, as well as the hate crimes that continue to be

perpetrated against Palestinian civilians, and to compel Israel to take action against perpetrators and bring them to justice.

While the Palestinian leadership welcomed the humanitarian ceasefire called for yesterday by the United Nations, more must be done to stop this aggression and alleviate the humanitarian hardships of the Palestinian people in Gaza. We express hope that ongoing efforts by all concerned parties, with whom President Mahmoud Abbas is actively engaged, will bring about a permanent ceasefire in order to avert the loss of more innocent human life. At the same time, we reiterate our urgent call to the Security Council to uphold its duties under the Charter of the United Nations and to undertake action to bring an end to this Israeli aggression and protect the Palestinian civilian population from Israel's crimes. Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable for all of its violations of international law and international humanitarian law. Moreover, the 8-year-old illegal Israeli blockade of Gaza must be lifted in order to end the socioeconomic deprivation of and humanitarian toll on our people. The international community, in particular the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, is also duty-bound to ensure compliance by the occupying Power. The history of the Palestinian people has already been marked by indescribable trauma, terror and loss, a result of Israel's 47-year-old occupation. It is high time for the international community to rectify this injustice by acting with urgency and conscience to bring an end to the suffering of the Palestinian people at the hands of the occupying Power and allow them to achieve their rights and live as a free people in their own independent State.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 507 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 14 July 2014 (A/ES-10/640-S/2014/491) constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations

United Nations A/68/952–S/2014/507

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
21 July 2014
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 35
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 17 July 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I wish to draw your attention to the following information:

- At 1549 hours on 10 July 2014, Israeli enemy forces at the Hadab position fired several rounds of gunfire that landed within Lebanese territory south of Yarun, some 70 metres from the Blue Line.
- Between 0700 hours and 0745 hours on 11 July 2014, Israeli enemy forces at one of their positions fired 21 155-mm shells that landed on the outskirts of Kafr Shuba town, locality of Sawwanah, within Lebanese territory.
- From 2310 hours on 12 July to 0015 hours on 13 July 2014, Israeli enemy forces fired 25 155-mm shells towards Lebanese territory. Eighteen shells landed to the north and south of Zibqin town. Seven landed on the outskirts of the town of Sham' – Tayr Harfa, between Abu Sanduf hill and Dahr al-Dab'ah.
- Between 0040 hours and 0130 hours on 14 July 2014, Israeli enemy forces at the Tall al-Manarah and Birkat Risha positions fired 25 shells, which landed in the locality of Jubb Suwayd, between the towns of Majdal Zun and Mansuri. They also fired six flares over Haniyah and Amiriyah, within Lebanese territory.
- At 2230 hours on 14 July 2014, Israeli enemy forces bombarded Lebanese territory, firing 31 shells, of which 25 were explosive and six were flares, towards the outskirts of the towns of Qalilah and Ma'liyah.

Those actions are a flagrant violation of my country's sovereignty and of the relevant international resolutions, particularly Security Council resolution 1701 (2006). They also clearly contravene the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and provisions of international law. I reiterate my Government's commitment to its obligations under international resolutions and, on behalf of my

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Government, call on the Security Council to condemn those violations in the strongest possible terms and prevail on Israel to end its violations of Lebanese sovereignty, whether in the air, at sea or on land, and implement all of its obligations under Security Council resolution 1701 (2006).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.